REMARKS

The examiner called the undersigned on Thursday, July 24, 2003, to discuss the amendment filed July 15, 2003. The examiner clarified that claims 22-37 were deemed nonelected, so they have been cancelled.

The examiner inquired about the tamper evident feature of the wireless electronic memory tag. The above- presented amendment illustrates a way to make the tag tamper evident, borrowing language from column 3, lines 62-65 of U.S. Patent 4,873,193 to Jensen et al., which was incorporated by reference in the present application at page 2, line 19. It is believed that this clarification of the nature of the tamper-evident feature makes the claims. clearly distinguishable from the art cited in the office action.

In addition, the examiner indicated that the "encoded electronic signature" recitation of claim 16 appeared to impart novelty. New claims 38 and 39 are claims 9 and 1 in independent form with this feature added.

The other amendments complete the needed amending process to overcome the Section 112 rejections of the office action; their earlier inadvertent omission is regretted.

It is believed that this case is now in condition for allowance and same is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted.

Howard A. MacCord. fr. Registration No. 28,639 MacCord Mason PLLC

P. O. Box 2974

Greensboro, NC 27402

(336) 273-4422

Date: <u>July 31, 2003</u> File No.: 2552-011

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MacCord Mason

A Professional Limited Liability Company

EDWARD W. RILEE
HOWARD A. MacCORD, JR.
WILLIAM J. WASON
JAMES L. LESTER
GILBERT J. ANDIA, JR.
JAMES N. ROGERS‡
DEAN M. TURMAN*
‡not admitted in NC, admitted WV
*not admitted in NC, admitted FL
BEN D. FRINK
Registered Patent Agent

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EDWARD W. RILEE
HOWARD A. MacCORD, JR.
WILLIAM J. MASON
JAWES L. LESTER
GILBERT J. ANDIA, JR.
JAMES N. ROGERS‡
DEAN M. TURMAN*
‡not admitted in NC, admitted WV
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BEN D. FRINK
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